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PERHAPS in no business is the "boom of revival" felt so much as in that of the manufacture of painted furniture. In and around Boston, New York, and Philadelphia this particular manufacture is quite lively. This pleasant state of affairs may be attributed to the returning prosperity of the manufacturing interests, for this style of furniture is generally sold to the better class of mechanics and machine hands. The higher grades of this sort of furniture is also bought largely by well-to-do farmers and small traders in the country, who furnish their "spare" rooms with it.

CARPENTERS should remember that fresh glue dries much more readily than that which has been once or twice melted. Dry glue steeped in cold water absorbs different quantities of water, according to the quality of the glue, while the proportion of the water so absorbed may be used as a test of the quality of the glue. From careful experiments with dry glue immersed for twenty-four hours in water, at 60° Fahrenheit, and thereby transformed into a jelly, it was found that the finest ordinary glue, or that made from white bones, absorbs twelve times its weight of water in twenty-four hours; from dark bones, the glue absorbs nine times its weight of water, while the ordinary glue, made from animal refuse, absorbs but three to five times its weight of water.

A VERY beautiful parlor coach has just been built by the Harlan & Hollingsworth Co., of Wilmington, Del., for the Woodruff Palace Car Co., and intended to run on the Jacksonville, Pensacola & Mobile road. It is the C. E. Lucas patent, and cost \$10,000. The interior arrangement and finish are exceedingly elegant and well adapted to the comfort and convenience of passengers. At each end are toilet and retiring-rooms for ladies and gentlemen, and accommodations for the porter. There is also an electrical call apparatus. The seats have nickel-plate trimming, and are upholstered in green and scarlet plush. The sleeping berths when closed represent a beautiful series of panel work. The exterior is a maroon color, relieved with striping of green, blue, and gold.

AN improved stock car has just been patented by Henry S. Moody, the object of which is to protect cattle, in course of transportation, from bodily injury, to allay fever, and to destroy the pernicious effects of heat, thirst, and exhaustion. This improvement secures to the consignor the full normal weight, and to the consumer the benefit of meat in a prime and healthy state.

OAK, says *Der Techniker*, may be so dyed as to resemble ebony. Soak it for 48 hours in a hot saturated solution of alum, and then paint it with a decoction of one part cam-peachy wood in 11 parts water. This decoction should be first filtered and slowly boiled down to one half its volume, when 10 to 15 drops of neutral tincture of indigo should be added for every quart it contains. After the application of this solution, the wood should be rubbed with a saturated solution of verdigris in acetic acid until the desired tint is obtained.

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#### Cutting Fretwork.

ON commencing work, first draw your pattern on the wood intended for use, and in all the spaces which are to be cut out bore holes with a small gimlet (a bradawl is the best). Then fasten your screw at one end in the frame, pass the other through one of the holes wherever you intend to commence, and fasten it in its place in the frame. In using the saw keep it perfectly upright, and do not press it too hard against the wood, but let it play freely, or else it will cut out of square altogether and spoil the work. Some people use a clamp for doing large pieces, but it is much easier to do without it. After your sawing is finished take the strain off the saw and frame; then sand-paper your work, and polish or varnish as you think fit.

#### A Rustic Hanging Basket.

TAKE three ends of cigar boxes, cut them into triangles, glue them together into shape, paint in some color like bronze. Get from the woods grape-vines and any pretty rustic things you may find; cut a piece of vine five inches long, bend and glue two inches from point of basket, another piece five inches long, bend the ends together, tie them, glue on the first piece two more short ones to go inside of the first; glue them on the basket crosswise, take two longer ones for the handle, split at both ends, lap on two corners, and glue another for the other corner; tie them together, make a loop of vines to hang by; begin at the edge of the basket, glue on the rustic ornaments, varnish it. Place half a cone at each corner of work, and in the interstices put moss.